



GARY R. HERBERT  
*Governor*

SPENCER J. COX  
*Lieutenant Governor*



Geoffrey Fattah, 801.245.7205  
Communications Director, Utah Dept. of Heritage and Arts

Rochelle Runge, 801-245-7218  
Outreach Coordinator, UServeUtah

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### **Utah Among Top 10 States Generating AmeriCorps Members**

SALT LAKE CITY/PROVO- The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), the federal agency that administers AmeriCorps programs, announced today that Utah ranks #8 among states for citizens engaged in AmeriCorps and that Provo ranks 4<sup>th</sup> for mid-sized cities. This is according to new data released today by CNCS, in the first-ever rankings of the states and cities that generate the most AmeriCorps members per capita.

Most AmeriCorps grant funding goes to State Service Commissions like UServeUtah, the Utah Commission on Service & Volunteerism, which in turn awards grants to community organizations to respond to local needs. Individuals also serve through AmeriCorps VISTA and NCCC programs funded directly by CNCS. This year in Utah AmeriCorps will provide more than 1,400 individuals the opportunity to engage in intensive, results-driven service to meet education, environmental, health, economic, and other pressing needs in communities across Utah.

"Utah AmeriCorps members are an essential resource for nonprofits, communities, and the individuals they serve. Service plays a huge role in solving many of the challenges Utah faces," said LaDawn Stoddard, UServeUtah's Director. In exchange for their service, AmeriCorps members earn an education award that can be used to pay for college or to pay back student loans. Since 1994, more than 14,000 Utah residents have served over 13 million hours and have qualified for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than \$30,610,000.

"AmeriCorps members make a powerful impact on the toughest challenges facing our nation," said Wendy Spencer, CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service. "I salute all the AmeriCorps members from Utah for their dedication, and thank our outstanding partners who make their service possible."

The rankings were determined by associating the permanent address of AmeriCorps members' to a U.S. designated place and state, including the District of Columbia. The analysis looked exclusively at members who served in program year 2013. For this analysis, a mid-sized city was defined as any place with a population greater than or equal to 100,000 people and less than 250,000 people. States and cities in the top 10 produce the highest number of AmeriCorps members per capita. For more information on rankings please visit [www.nationalservice.gov](http://www.nationalservice.gov).

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Find more about us online at [userve.utah.gov](http://userve.utah.gov)

UServeUtah, the Utah Commission on Service and Volunteerism, is the state's central coordinating body for service and volunteerism. The Commission is responsible for developing, implementing, and sustaining a vision and culture of civic engagement and national and community service within the state. UServeUtah does this through promoting volunteerism; administering National Service programs; connecting people with opportunities to serve; building organizational capacity for effective volunteer engagement and; participating in strategic initiatives that mobilize volunteers to meet local needs.

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